

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Kindly replace paragraph ¹⁴16, page ³4 with the following:

A1

[0016] The roof rack system 10 includes at least one storage surface 20. The use of a storage surface 20 for mounting objects for transport is well known in the prior art. The at least one storage surface 20 is movable between a first position 22, where the at least one storage surface 20 is generally coincident to the roof portion 14 of the automobile 12, and a second position 24 (see Figure 2), where the at least one storage surface 20 is generally parallel to the side portion 16 of the automobile 12. The capability of moving the at least one storage surface 20 from the first position 22 to the second position 24 provides a variety of benefits. A wide variety of known methods and configurations are known in the prior art that allow the at least one storage surface 20 to move between the first position 22 and the second position 24. These methods include track/guide arrangements, roller arrangements, ball bearing arrangements, and a variety of other known methods.

Kindly replace paragraph ¹⁸19, page 5 with the following:

sub c4
sub B2
sub c47

A2

[0019] The roof rack system 10 may additionally include a left end rail element 42 and a right end rail element 44 mounted on the left storage surface 32 and the right storage surface 30, respectively. The left end rail element 42 and the right end rail element 44 serve a dual purpose. When the storage surface 20 is in the first position 22, the left end rail element 42 and the right end rail element 44 are positioned in conjunction with a plurality of collapsible rails 26 to form a basket 46 on the roof portion 14 of the vehicle

Cont
A 3

12. The basket 46 helps retain objects stored on the roof portion 14 of the vehicle 12 during transportation. Additionally, when the storage surface 20 is in the second position 24, the left end rail element 42 and the right end rail element 44 can serve as a base support (support position 56) for objects mounted on the side portion 16 of the vehicle. In other embodiments, however, the left end rail element 42 and the right end rail element 44 may be collapsed onto the storage surface 20 (low profile position 58) when in the second position 24 to minimize the width profile of the automobile 12. Although the rails 42,44 may be collapsed in any of a wide variety of known methods, one method contemplates pivoting the rails 42,44 at the contact point with the tracks 36.

Kindly replace paragraph ¹⁹20, page ⁵6 with the following:

A 3

[0020] The roof rack system 10 may further include a plurality of mounting elements 50. Although a variety of configurations are contemplated, in one embodiment the use of three mounting elements 50 is contemplated. It is contemplated that the mounting elements 50 may include latching areas 52. The latching areas 52 may be utilized as a convenient location to attach bungee cords or other securing straps commonly utilized to hold objects on the roof rack system 10. The present invention may further include a locking mechanism 54 for securing the storage surface 20 in the second position 24. Although a variety of locking elements 54 are contemplated by the present invention, in one embodiment the locking element 54 is a pivoting lock that can remain flush (flush position 60) with the side portion 16 of the vehicle 12 while the storage position 20 is in